GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4030
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005
WAITING LIST FOR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS
Gohain Shri Rajen

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of waiting list of land line, WLL, CDMA mobile phone and cellular mobile phone in each State of the country, till date;

(b) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is unable to provide telephone connections/mobile connections in cities and rural areas within two months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that 18 lakhs applicants were in waiting list for telephone connections as on 31 March, 2004; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to liquidate the waiting list?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The total waiting list of landline, WLL, CDMA mobile phones for BSNL in the country is 2535648 as on 31.03.2005. The circle wise details are given in the Annexure.

(b) & (c) BSNL is installing the required capacity to provide telephone connections at the earliest. Wherever the telecom infrastructure is available and the area is technically feasible, telephone connection are provided without delay.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) BSNL is committed to provide connections to its wait-listed customers, interalia, through the following measures.

(i) Large-scale deployment of WLL network in rural areas has been planned.

(ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable from 2.5 Km to 5.0 Km for Landline Exchanges has been given.

(iii) Mobile network in all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and State Highways are deployed to give coverage to more areas.

(iv) In addition to the efforts made by BSNL, the demand for telephones is also met by the private operators.

(v) Further, financial support is provided to the telecom operators through the mechanism of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USO Fund) to encourage them, interalia, to provide phones in rural areas.

Annexure

DETAILS OF CIRCLE-WISE WAITING LIST OF TELEPHONES

S.No	Name of Circle	Waiting List for Landline WLL & CMTS connections
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	449
2.	Andhra Pradesh	40680
3.	Assam	30306
4.	Bihar	96871
5.	Chattisgarh	2809
6.	Gujarat	57328
7	Haryana	89105
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45207
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	67714

10.	Jharkhand	210747
11.	Karnataka	95742
12.	Kerala	357004
13.	Madhya Pradesh	10059
14.	Maharashtra	180287
15.	North East-I	4377
16.	North East-II	4442
17.	Orissa	40958
18.	Punjab	44887
19.	Rajasthan	137814
20.	Tamilnadu	99195
21.	Uttranchal	8626
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	727179
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	52362
24	West Bengal	125447
25.	Kolkatta	4609
26.	Chennai	1444
Total		2535648